COCHIN

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF 1114.

Tuesday, the $\frac{7th\ of\ February\ 1939.}{25th\ of\ Makaram\ 1114.}$

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble the President (SIR SHANMUKHAM CHETTY, K. C. I. E.), in the Chair.

Messrs. A. L. Antony, V. K. Bhaskara Menon, L. M. Pylee, C. S. Sadasiva Ayyar, E. Ikkanda Warriar, Ismail Haji Essa Sait, Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan, and P. Govinda Menon, were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

270. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): May I know the practice that was obtaining some two years ago with regard to the entrustment of medical stores in the Medical Department?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): Sir, I am afraid I shall have to give a statement describing the whole thing because no clear impression can be given by answering a question. If I am permitted, I shall do so.

Some 35 years ago, a store was built at Ernakulam. This consisted of two parts. One was the General Hospital Store and the other was a small room which was known as Reserve Store. This Reserve Store was meant to stock small quantities of drugs got down to meet any emergency in the different institutions of the State. All the necessary drugs were supplied direct from England to the different institutions. Subsequently it was seen that the Reserve Store was not enough to meet the demands of the several institutions and a few years back the Government, on my recommendation, decided to get down things by bulk, and in the year 1109 we opened what is known as the Central Medical Store. We got all the things necessary for the State in bulk and began to issue them to the different institutions directly from the Central Medical Store. At the time when there was a Reserve Medical Store a Sub-Assistant Surgeon was in charge. About a few years ago the Chief Medical Officer was put in charge.

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): May I know when that charge was handed over to the Chief Medical Officer?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): I think it was in 1933.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): What were the reasons that induced the Government to change the Medical Stores from the charge and supervision of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon to that of the Chief Medical Officer?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): At that time it was a small store.

Mr. President: Ever since the Central Medical Store was constituted the Chief Medical Officer was in charge. Is it not?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): May I know the amount spent after it has been transferred and before?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): The comparison is an odious one.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): I want only figures.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): At the time when the Resident Medical Officer was in charge he was given an allowance over and above his pay to look after the Reserve Store, whereas at present we have got a store clerk, 4 packers and two compounders.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*): May I know whether the medicines brought here in a saturated form are to be converted into a diluted form? That can be done only in the presence and under the guidance of a medical man.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): At present we do not follow that system. Formerly we used to get concentrated extracts from England. But now we are getting medicines prepared in India which are comparatively cheap.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): May I know who supplies medicines to the Dispensaries and Veterinary Hospitals? Is it direct from the Stores?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Nellayi*): When is it generally supplied?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): During the first eight months of the year. Half a dozen institutions are supplied every month.

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Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (*Trichur-South*) :May I know when this particular store which has been brought under the Chief Medical Officer was begun ?

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (*Chief Medical Officer*): On the 1st of Chingam 1109.

LECTURES ON THE EVILS OF DRINK, OPIUM, ETC.

271. Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Will the Government be pleased to organise a course of annual lectures for every three villages grouped together on the evils of drink, opium and tobacco?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): This is a matter which could be better undertaken by non-official bodies. I don't exactly understand the intention of the member. If he will make it a little more explanatory I shall be glad to give the necessary information.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): My intention is really pious. But I will put it in another form.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): May I know whether the Government has any objection to publish pamphlets on this subject ?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): All the people know the evils of it. In spite of that knowledge they indulge in it.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder (*Jews-Nominated*): Will the benefits of drink also be included in the pamphlet ?

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): There is a general impression among the people that the Government supports these things. At least to make the position of the Government clear that the Government also wants prohibition even at a later date it will be useful for propaganda work.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I hope the hon'ble member will move in the matter and set the ball rolling, and we will follow him.

ROAD CONNECTING PUTHENPETTAH BAZAAR, KUNNAMKULAM—CONSTRUCTION OF.

272. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether the Government has issued an order L. Dis. 11986/11, dated 14th April 1936, stating that the connection of

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